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KEY TO SYMBOLS

..	figures not available
...	figures not appropriate or not applicable
—	nil or zero
--	amount too small to be expressed
p	preliminary figures
r	revised figures
x	confidential
*	OEA estimates

THE NEW BRUNSWICK ECONOMY

1979 REVIEW

Introduction & Overview

Available data suggests that New Brunswick turned in a relatively good performance in 1979. It is estimated that real growth will approximate 1978's rate; in the order of 3 - 3½%. At the national level, current estimates for 1979 suggest real growth will come in at less than 3%, thus the Province will again out-perform the nation.

Much of the strength for 1979 was attributable to consumer expenditures on goods and services and a relatively good export performance. Weakened sectors, though still making a positive contribution, included government current expenditures (a reflection of budgetary restraint measures) and gross fixed capital formation (reflecting the completion of several major commercial and public sector projects).

Consumer expenditures were buoyed by employment growth of over 4% and by personal income gains. It is expected that the latter showed an increase approximating that of 1978, at a 9.5% nominal rate.

Sources of strength in the Province's economic base last year continued to be the primary sectors and forward-linked manufacturing. These strengths are a reflection of the significant export growth recorded for the

first half of 1979, an increase of over 35% over the comparable period in 1978. Major contributions to first half growth came from pulp and paper, food and beverages and mineral products. And, based on preliminary data, third quarter exports were up strongly as well. With orders continuing to be firm, exports will make a significant contribution to New Brunswick's growth in 1979.

In general, most industrialized economies saw a slowdown in the rate of real growth for 1979. To a significant extent, the slower volume increases were due to increased rates of inflation, which in many instances, were the result of rising energy costs. In view of accelerating prices, most industrialized OECD member countries have implemented restrictive policies aimed at controlling inflation. From this perspective, it would thus appear that further slowdowns will be imminent in 1980, and hence a weakened potential for the export market may exist.

The U. S. economy registered moderating economic growth in 1979, coupled with high inflation rates and a weakening U. S. dollar. The policy response to this perception of the economy has been the adoption of restrictive monetary policies in order to rid the country of inflation and shore-up the U. S. dollar.

As evidenced by increases in Canadian interest rates, the restrictive U. S. policy stance has obviously impacted upon the Canadian economy. Undoubtedly, the intention of such policies is to restore the possibility of gaining real rates of return on investment and diminish inflationary expectations. The question now arises as to when the inflationary spiral in the U. S. will be broken and sustained recovery becomes possible.

The timing of such a recovery is seen as being critical for the Canadian and New Brunswick economies since the foreign sector, through exports, accounts for such a significant share of domestic output. And, the U. S. is our major market.

Assuming a mild recession in the U. S. in the first half of 1980 and a recovery by mid-year, Provincial pulp and paper exports are anticipated to hold up and with the resumption of production at the MacMillian-Rothesay plant, newsprint production, and hence total exports, could show further increases. However, if there is a delayed recovery, a weakening in the demand for these products can be expected. A similar situation exists for mineral products, although in this case the European economies come into play to a greater extent than for pulp and paper.

Thus, in addition to being influenced by growth prospects in the U. S., the outlook for the European economies represent an additional factor determining New Brunswick's outlook for 1980. Some 25-30% of N. B. exports go to Western Europe, while the U. S. takes about 50%.

Population

The Province's population topped the 700,000 mark in April and as of June 1, 1979 stood at 701,000, up 0.9% from a year earlier. This represents a marginal decline from the rate of population growth recorded in 1978 (1.1%).

Declining birth rates have contributed to a lower rate of population growth but the major explanatory variable has been declining net migration.

Current estimates suggest that the number of people leaving the Province is about equal to the number entering. This situation is somewhat different from previous years when for example, positive net migration estimates were evident; 2,000 for 1978 and some 3,000 for 1977. The declining value of the net migration component would appear to suggest that the trend toward net in-migration begun in the early 1970's, may be reversing.

Labour Market

Given the age distribution of New Brunswick's population one can be assured that the labour force will continue to grow at rates in excess of that for total population. There is, however, some evidence to suggest that the growth in the labour force is slowing from the accelerated rates established in the early 1970's.

The labour force grew at a rate of 2.6% in 1979. In 1978, the comparable figure was 4.6%.

Coupled with slower population growth and declining levels of net migration, a major contributing factor to the deceleration in labour force growth was a decline in the rate of increase for aggregate participation rates. For 1979, the participation rate averaged 55.3%, showing only a 0.3 percentage point increase over 1978. This change is even lower than for the previous year where a percentage point difference of 1.3 was evident. The explanation for this change is to be found in the participation rate for females.

In previous years female rates were showing particularly dynamic behaviour; for example, even in 1978 female rates were increasing by as much as 2.2 percentage points. Now the difference between the average for 1979 and 1978 is only 0.3. By comparison male rates have continued to exhibit relatively stable behaviour showing only marginal gains on a year over year basis.

Since labour force growth showed some moderation in 1979 while demand factors, translated in terms of employment growth, have increased, the net effect was that the unemployment rate declined throughout the year. Showing typically seasonal behaviour the rate peaked in April (14.7%) and began a more or less steady decline to reach an 8.8% level in September (10.7% seasonally adjusted). Subsequent to the September estimate typically seasonal increases in the unemployment rate are noted. The unemployment rate averaged 11.2% for the year compared with 12.6% in 1978.

As indicated previously employment growth in 1979 was significant; estimated at 4.6%. Along with respectable employment growth, labour income, as measured by total wages and salaries, increased at the rate of 10.7%. This compared favourably with the 8.8% recorded in 1978. Similarly, average weekly wages and salaries increased by 10.6%.

Output

- Agriculture -

On the basis of farm cash receipts, the agricultural sector made major gains in the first half of the year. For the January to June period a

17.9% increase over the first half of 1978 in total farm cash receipts was recorded. This brought the mid-year total to $67.2 million. Major contributions came from the livestock sector which increased from $32.5 million in 1978 to $40.9 million in 1979, a gain of 26%. Crops, the other major sector of New Brunswick's agricultural industry showed a decline of 1%. A major contributor to this decline was a reduction in potato receipts (-1.9%). It should be noted, however, that estimates for the first half cover the 1978 crop. The strength of the 1979 harvest will not be evident in the data until third and fourth quarter estimates are available. Preliminary indications suggest that there may be some weakening in the crop component as a result of poor harvest and storage conditions for potatoes in the fall of 1979.

The January-October estimates (table 11) indicate a slowdown in the rate of increase over that for the half with total farm cash receipts increasing by 9.0%. Potato receipts continue to be weak, showing a ten month decline of 1.0%.

- Forestry -

With the exception of mining, other primary sectors did not show quite the same degree of strength as agriculture. Primary forestry as measured by pulpwood production showed a fairly steady deterioration in production since the first quarter. For example, at the end of the first quarter production was up by 20.3%; by the mid-year production was up by only 2.6%. However, as a result of a stronger relative performance in August 1979 compared with 1978, the nine month average showed an improvement with an approximate 4%

increase. It is felt that this slowdown in the rate of production is in large measure a function of the strike which begain in April at the MacMillian-Rothesay newsprint plant, rather than because of an inherent weakness in the demand for primary products.

- Fishing -

The level and rate of activity within the fishery sector is particularly hard to determine at this time since only preliminary data are available for 1979. On the basis of this preliminary information (Tables 14 and 15) both the volume and value of landings are indicated as being down. However, rather significant adjustments are typical between the time the preliminary data are available and the time final estimates are released. The final data, are expected to show the sector's performance at least matching that of 1978.

- Mining -

As indicated previously, output increased in the mining industry. Since metals account for over 80% of the total value of provincial mineral production, developments within this sector are of primary importance. On the basis of information for the first three quarters of 1979, it is evident that real growth was experienced in the metals sector: volume gains were registered on all fronts - lead was up by 11.4%; zinc by 3.4%; copper, 3.9%; bulk concentrates by 19.5% and total concentrates by 6.6%.

The value of mineral exports for the first three quarters of 1979 showed an increase of 147% with metals accounting for most of this gain.

The lower valued Canadian dollar has undoubtedly had a beneficial effect on the industry.

Coal production saw an increase in output over 1978 levels. It began with a particularly weak performance in the first quarter, down by almost 25%. By the end of the half the rate of production had improved somewhat, showing a -5.3% change. The decline continued into July, but August and September saw increases in production resulting in a nine month rate of change of -5.4%. Production in the final quarter was, however, sufficient to boost the year's output, showing a 5.3% gain for the year. It should be noted that with the installation of the new drag-line at the Minto coal field the Province's capacity for coal production has improved substantially.

- Manufacturing -

During 1978 the Province's manufacturing sector achieved notable gains both in terms of employment and output. Available data would suggest that much of this strength continued into 1979 with gains being particularly pronounced during the first part of the year.

On the basis of nine months data, provincial manufacturing shipments were up by 22.8%. However, there was a gradual decline in the rate of growth as the year progressed. Compared to 1978, the first quarter saw an increase in shipments of 44.1% (leading contributors were paper and allied and wood industries), however, by the end of the first half the rate had dropped to 30.1%.

The major sector contributing to the slowdown in the rate of expansion was pulp and paper. This was primarily because of the strike at one of

the Province's newsprint plants (MacMillian-Rothesay). In addition, the lumber industry saw some weakening in demand, and hence a slowdown in the rate of production over the year. Production levels for the first quarter for example, showed an increase of nearly 17%, but by the end of the first half the rate was down to around 9%. At the end of the first three quarters the rate reached 5.1%.

With the exception of the lumber industry it is difficult to determine whether the American slowdown played a significant role in shaping the fortunes of the New Brunswick manufacturing sector. Without exception the value of shipments for 1979 was greater than for the same period in 1978. But, as noted previously the rate of growth declined for most industries as the year progressed. Due to the dominant role the United States plays in our export markets, a recession there is bound to adversely affect our growth potential, as will a weakening national economy. However, the extent of such an impact will clearly be a function of the timing and severity of the anticipated recession.

Pulp and paper is one example where external markets are of paramount importance to New Brunswick. Currently the industry is facing a strong demand for its products, orders are firm into 1980 and inventory levels are relatively low. Thus, if the U. S. begins a stable recovery in 1980, the outlook for provincial producers will remain relatively optimistic. However, if recessionary influences are delayed beyond mid-1980, production cutbacks could well be possible with obvious implications for the New Brunswick economy.

- Utilities -

During the first eleven months of the year the total supply of electricity in New Brunswick was approximately 12% above the same period of 1978. With imports rising by 1.8%, local generation (up 17%) accounted for 95% of the increase. Hydro generation was up 46%, almost recovering from the 1978 decline of 50% which was related to low water levels. Thermal generation was up by over 6% in the first eleven months.

Provincial consumption does not appear to have changed much from 1978 levels. Sales to residential customers were up by about 5% after eleven months and sales to large users were 4% higher in the April-August period. The latter were held down by the strike at MacMillian-Rothesay.

The telephone business, the other major utility, continued to increase into 1979. The number of telephones in service increased by 4.8% in the first three quarters of 1979. The total number of long distance calls increased by 13.9% during the same period compared with a 10.8% annual increase in 1978.

- Construction -

Residential construction showed some signs of strength for the first half of the year with 7.2% increase in housing starts. Similarly houses under construction showed a 5.9% increase, June 30, 1979 over the same date in 1978.

However, a weakened performance was the case in the remainder of the year; third quarter estimates suggest that housing starts were below 1978's level. In addition, an examination of building permit data indicates that the volume of construction activity will probably decline as data for the year unfolds. A significant decrease is evident in this series; while the rate of growth for the first quarter stood at 79.3%, by the end of the half only a 10.7% increase was recorded. On the basis on ten months data a further deterioration is noted with the rate of increase dropping to 6.6%.

According to Statistics Canada's mid-year survey of investment intentions, capital investment of $1,395.4 million is expected for 1979. This is up slightly (5.2%) from initial survey results conducted at the beginning of the year when a capital investment level of approximately $1,326 million was anticipated.

This level of investment activity basically holds the line on past levels of activity within the Province's construction industry. For 1979 a nominal increase of 9.6% is expected for total capital investment, in line with inflation in the construction industry. The component showing the most accelerated increase is machinery and equipment at 12.4%, while the construction component is expected to show a more moderate increase of 7.9%.

In terms of contributions to Provincial investment activity the sectors can be ranked as follows: institutions and government departments (32.1%), primary industries and construction (24.2%), manufacturing (13.9%), trade, finance and commercial services (13.3%), housing (-3.2%), and utilities (-4.0%). (Figures in brackets represent rates of increase or decrease over

1978 estimates) The construction outlook for 1980, given general public sector restraint, uncertainty in the economic outlook and the possible impact of high interest rates on investment decisions is not particularly optimistic.

- Trade -

Retail trade continued to exhibit dynamic performance through 1979. On the basis of ten months data, the rate of growth in retail sales registered 13.6%; an 11% increase was attained in 1978 for the comparable period. While growth of this sector showed some declines over the course of the year, they have only been marginal. For the first quarter a 16.6% increase was recorded, by the half the rate was down slightly and finally ending at 12.9% for the first three quarters. The seasonally adjusted series indicates that consumer demand continues to be strong in recent months.

The number of new motor vehicles sold in the first ten months of 1979 showed an increase of 1.8%. However, the value of these sales in the same period increased by 19.2%. The sale of passenger vehicles registered a 1.0% increase while commercial vehicles rose 3.8%.

It may be of interest to note here that the Saint John Consumer Price Index showed an increase of 9.6% at a December over December rate. Similarly, for the year the average increase in the CPI was 9.3%. This is up significantly from the 8.0% increase recorded in 1978. Undoubtedly accelerating energy and food costs were contributing factors to the 1979 increase.

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(I) POPULATION AND VITAL STATISTICS

Table 1 - POPULATION

Month	1976	1977	1978	1979
January	673,800	684,200	692,700	699,200
April	675,900	685,900	694,100	700,200
June	677,300	687,100	694,900	701,000
July	678,300	687,600	695,600	701,700
October	681,600	690,600	697,600	703,500
(Oct./Oct.)	(+1.6)	(+1.3)	(+1.0)	(+0.8)

Source: Statistics Canada 91-001.

Table 2 - MARRIAGES
(number)

Month	1976	1977	1978	1979
January	169	128		
February	215	178	(450)	(440)
March	245	216		
April	304	285		
May	528	447	(1,660)	(1,210)
June	672	621		
July	1,014	925		
August	788	742	(2,400)	(2,350)
September	627	580		
October	545	517		
November	323	315	(1,080)	
December	324	321		
Total	5,754	5,275	5,310[1]	
% Change (Jan.-Sept.)	-3.2	-8.3	+0.7	(-11.3)

[1]Annual total contains revisions not shown in quarterly data.
Sources: Statistics Canada 11-003 & 84-205.

Table 3 - BIRTHS
(number)

Month	1976	1977	1978	1979
January	944	929		
February	917	891	(2,820)	(2,600)
March	1,084	1,024		
April	982	977		
May	1,015	1,063	(3,110)	(2,840)
June	1,026	948		
July	998	949		
August	991	936	(2,980)	(2,680)
September	1,028	983		
October	1,005	977		
November	930	927	(2,720)	
December	891	911		
Total	11,811	11,515	10,790[1]	
% Change (Jan.-Sept.)	+0.2	-2.5	-6.3	(-8.9)

[1]Annual total contains revisions not shown in quarterly data.
Sources: Statistics Canada 11-003 & 84-204.

Table 4 - DEATHS
(number)

Month	1976	1977	1978	1979
January	438			
February	448	(1,400)	(1,490)	(1,510)
March	475			
April	459			
May	453	(1,370)	(1,300)	(1,220)
June	395			
July	383			
August	418	(1,310)	(1,370)	(1,270)
September	385			
October	468			
November	440	(1,293)	(1,260)	
December	440			
Total	5,202	5,165[1]	5,183[1]	
% Change (Jan.-Sept.)	+1.0	-0.7	+0.3	(-3.8)

[1]Annual total contains revisions not shown in quarterly data.
Sources: Statistics Canada 11-003 & 84-206.

(II) LABOUR

Table 5 - TOTAL WAGES AND SALARIES
(million dollars)

Month	1976	1977	1978	1979
January	157.9	173.6	185.0	206.8
February	158.8	172.3	185.9	207.1
March	163.7	179.6	187.4	208.2
April	165.2	176.4	188.5	206.9
May	172.7	183.4	201.8	222.8
June	182.6	195.6	215.6	234.6
July	185.4	198.9	215.0	235.4
August	183.7	198.6	212.3	237.5
September	187.1	197.5	214.0	237.2
October	180.3	195.6	219.6	238.8
November	180.4	192.1	215.2	
December	180.5	190.9	213.3	
Total	2,098.2	2,254.5	2,453.4	
% Change (Jan.-Oct.)	+11.5	+7.4	+8.8	(+10.4)

Source: Statistics Canada 72-005.

Table 6 - AVERAGE WEEKLY WAGES AND SALARIES[1]
(dollars)

Month	1976	1977	1978	1979
January	194.95	223.55	230.29	252.14
February	197.58	223.62	230.33	252.47
March	201.01	224.90	231.35	254.11
April	199.68	223.39	227.71	251.50
May	196.58	218.51	228.43	251.94
June	200.71	220.11	230.48	256.02
July	202.22	221.75	229.38	257.80
August	202.49	220.70	231.78	259.01
September	204.41	224.71	231.25	254.99
October	208.24	226.61	237.80	256.27
November	211.38	226.96	242.17	
December	211.47	225.29	243.74	
Average	202.56	223.34	232.89	
% Change (Jan.-Oct.)	+11.0	+10.3	+4.3	(+10.3)

[1]Covers only firms with 20 or more employees.
Source: Statistics Canada 72-002.

Table 7 - EMPLOYMENT INDEX[1]
(1961 = 100)

Month	1976	1977	1978	1979
January	126.7	122.2	122.6	127.1
February	124.9	120.8	122.8	125.8
March	126.3	120.7	123.2	124.6
April	127.7	122.5	124.6	125.7
May	137.2	131.3	137.2	138.2
June	144.1	140.9	144.7	143.3
July	144.4	141.8	145.5	144.2
August	146.5	141.1	144.3	145.2
September	143.2	138.5	144.5	143.9
October	137.3	134.6	141.4	141.0
November	133.9	132.0	137.3	
December	128.2	126.9	131.0	
Average	135.0	131.1	134.9	
% Change (Jan.-Oct.)	-0.8	-3.0	+2.9	(+0.6)

[1]Covers only firms with 20 or more employees.
Source: Statistics Canada 72-002.

Table 8 - UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE BENEFITS PAYMENTS
(thousand dollars)

Month	1976	1977	1978	1979
January	17,178	22,153	29,555	30,017
February	17,715	20,888	26,063	24,239
March	22,366	24,701	26,443	24,877
April	17,907	21,771	25,345	26,064
May	17,019	23,157	27,053	23,448
June	13,299	15,156	16,974	15,135
July	10,610	12,770	15,131	14,509
August	12,721	14,989	15,981	12,536
September	10,004	11,928	12,998	10,430
October	10,017	14,817	15,464	
November	15,389	17,963	17,176	
December	16,919	20,442	20,468	
Total	181,144	220,734	248,651	
% Change (Jan.-Sept.)	+19.3	+21.9	+12.6	(-7.3)

Source: Statistics Canada 73-001.

Table 9 - LABOUR FORCE, EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT
(thousands)

Month	Labour Force			Employment			Unemployment			Unemployment Rate		
	1977	1978	1979	1977	1978	1979	1977	1978	1979	1977	1978	1979
January	241	252	260	206	217	226	35	35	33	14.5	13.9	12.9
February	241	253	259	205	215	224	36	39	35	14.9	15.2	13.4
March	243	255	264	204	217	227	39	39	38	16.0	15.1	14.3
April	243	257	269	206	216	229	37	42	39	15.1	16.2	14.7
May	261	275	285	226	238	253	35	37	32	13.5	13.5	11.2
June	270	283	290	238	253	262	32	30	28	11.7	10.6	9.7
July	284	296	299	250	261	268	34	35	31	11.9	11.9	10.2
August	284	294	302	252	260	272	33	34	31	11.5	11.5	10.2
September	270	283	290	240	253	264	30	30	25	11.2	10.6	8.8
October	269	281	287	237	251	261	32	30	26	12.0	10.6	9.0
November	263	276	281	228	246	253	35	30	27	13.4	11.0	9.7
December	259	269	274	222	237	246	37	32	29	14.1	12.0	10.5
Average	261	273	280	226	238	249	35	34	31	13.2	12.6	11.2
% Change	+2.8	+4.6	+2.6	0.0	+5.3	+4.6	+25.0	-2.9	-8.8			

Sources: Statistics Canada 71-001 & 71-201.

(III) PRIMARY INDUSTRY

Table 10 - FARM CASH RECEIPTS FROM FARMING OPERATIONS
(thousand dollars)

Quarter	1976	1977	1978	1979
1st Quarter	31,129	29,980	25,480	32,997
2nd Quarter	29,628	28,387	31,532	34,243
3rd Quarter	23,026	24,255	30,151	27,935
4th Quarter	29,304	26,274	33,220	
Total	113,087	108,896	120,383	
% Change (Jan.-Sept.)	+14.3	-3.7	+10.5	(+9.2)

Sources: Statistics Canada 21-001 & 21-201.

Table 11 - SOURCES OF FARM CASH RECEIPTS
(thousand dollars)
(Jan.-Oct.)

	1978	1979
Oats	179	271
Potatoes	22,913	22,754
Fruits	3,637	3,183
Vegetables	3,014	3,302
Other Crops	2,941	3,236
Total Crops	32,684	32,746
Cattle and Calves	13,468	14,826
Hogs	5,860	6,181
Sheep and Lambs	188	325
Dairy Products	20,910	23,417
Poultry	11,031	13,549
Eggs	5,859	6,045
Other Livestock and Products	1,226	1,307
Total Livestock and Products	58,542	65,650
Forest and Maple Products	2,373	2,846
Other Payments	1,783	1,853
Deficiency Payments	2,232	2,938
Total Cash Receipts	97,614	106,033

Source: Statistics Canada 21-001.

Table 12 - PULPWOOD PRODUCTION - DOMESTIC USE
(thousand cubic metres)

Month	1976	1977	1978	1979
January	228	385	326	347
February	179	303	320	462
March	355	248	345	383
April	207	182	237	228
May	228	283	357	313
June	590	546	646	556
July	696	808	694	703
August	625	745	574	681
September	732	754	684	682
October	579	491	789	713
November	574	704	732	
December	388	451	597	
Total	5 381	5 900	6 301	
% Change (Jan.-Oct.)	-5.6	+9.6	+6.8	(+1.9)

Source: Statistics Canada 25-001.

Table 13 - COAL PRODUCTION
(thousand tons)

Month	1976	1977	1978	1979
January	48.9	28.0	34.0	20.6
February	40.8	36.2	28.4	20.2
March	31.1	32.3	26.4	25.8
April	41.3	35.4	30.6	33.1
May	53.2	18.6	16.8	27.5
June	46.6	30.1	21.3	21.9
July	37.9	28.8	25.1	19.2
August	37.1	32.8	36.1	27.9
September	33.6	30.2	29.2	38.4
October	29.0	27.1	30.1	46.8
November	42.0	27.0	39.4	45.3
December	32.3	18.2	33.0	42.2
Total	474.0	344.7	350.4	368.9
% Change	+1.8	-27.3	+1.7	+5.3

Source: Department of Natural Resources, Mines Branch.

Table 14 - VOLUME OF SEA FISH LANDINGS BY SPECIES
(metric tonnes)
(Jan.-Oct.)

Species	1978	1979
Groundfish, Total	16,662	17,886
Cod	6,966	8,578
Redfish	3,778	3,419
Flounders & Soles	4,218	3,376
Other	1,700	2,513
Pelagic & Estuarial, Total	106,095	29,679
Herring	93,433	17,693
Tuna	3,669	2,443
Other	8,993	9,543
Molluscs & Crustaceans, Total	16,633	18,603
Lobster	3,890	3,756
Crabs	7,942	10,189
Shrimp	1,775	1,978
Other	3,026	2,680
Total Sea Fish Landings	139,390	66,168

Source: Department of Fisheries & Oceans, Ottawa.

Table 15 - VALUE OF SEA FISH LANDINGS BY SPECIES
(thousand dollars)
(Jan.-Oct.)

Species	1978	1979
Groundfish, Total	4,078	5,072
Cod	1,997	2,730
Redfish	784	822
Flounders & Soles	907	915
Other	390	605
Pelagic & Estuarial, Total	19,800	7,305
Herring	15,036	3,514
Tuna	3,172	1,844
Other	1,592	1,947
Molluscs & Crustaceans, Total	20,757	23,735
Lobster	13,086	12,908
Crabs	4,725	4,622
Shrimp	1,453	1,686
Other	1,493	4,519
Total Sea Fish Landings	44,635	36,112

Source: Department of Fisheries & Oceans, Ottawa.

Table 16 - VOLUME OF MINERAL CONCENTRATES PRODUCED
(tons)
(Jan.-Sept.)

	1978	1979
Lead	182,660	203,430
Zinc	365,244	377,712
Copper	33,545	34,855
Bulk Lead-Zinc	28,157	33,650
Total	609,606	649,647

Source: Department of Natural Resources.

(IV) MANUFACTURING

Table 17 - GROSS VALUE OF MANUFACTURING SHIPMENTS
(million dollars)

Month	1976	1977	1978	1979
January	141.3	147.8	158.4	241.6
February	134.3	165.5	152.2	215.4
March	154.6	176.8	180.7	250.9
April	157.8	162.8	176.5	243.4
May	164.1	174.5	226.8	249.6
June	167.6	187.0	220.3	249.5
July	153.9	166.8	202.2	240.8
August	155.6	162.8	222.6	248.1
September	159.5	185.2	235.8	243.9
October	148.1	157.1	229.8	277.1
November	160.1	171.8	255.1	
December	167.5	179.6	246.5	
Total	1,864.3	2,037.7	2,506.9	
% Change (Jan.-Oct.)	+11.7	+9.3	+23.0	(+22.7)

Source: Statistics Canada 31-001.

Table 18 - PULP AND PAPER PRODUCTION INDEX
(1953 = 100)

Quarter	1976	1977	1978	1979
Jan.-March	216.7	253.3	263.3	268.9
April-June	291.3	278.3	266.6	213.1
July-Sept.	278.1	237.8	254.1	192.8
Oct.-Dec.	271.6	262.1	283.1	
Average	264.4	257.9	266.8	
% Change (Jan.-Sept.)	+9.6	-2.5	+3.4	(-13.9)

Source: Based on data from the Canadian Pulp and Paper Association.

Table 19 - SAWN LUMBER PRODUCTION
(thousand cubic metres)

Month	1976	1977	1978	1979
January	40.6	58.0	53.3	73.0
February	51.8	55.3	62.6	65.8
March	61.6	57.2	74.7	84.0
April	63.5	57.1	72.9	82.3
May	64.6	52.5	77.1	77.3
June	62.9	57.4	80.1	76.0
July	54.5	47.1	67.6	68.2
August	72.0	56.4	83.7	84.7
September	80.8	62.0	86.2	80.9
October	74.6	80.2	84.2	
November	71.9	80.0	103.5	
December	58.2	63.4	83.3	
Total	757.0	726.6	929.2	
% Change (Jan.-Sept.)	+25.2	-4.0	+27.9	(+5.2)

Sources: Statistics Canada 35-002 & 11-003.

(V) UTILITIES

Table 20 - NET ELECTRIC ENERGY USED
(million kilowatt hours)

Month	1976	1977	1978	1979
January	668	818	783	839
February	611	694	732	792
March	674	730	762	789
April	611	685	677	669
May	579	631	647	608
June	556	584	586	564
July	541	507	555	564
August	547	568	595	574
September	557	560	595	575
October	642	676	682	
November	744	681	744	
December	790	782	821	
Total	7,521	7,916	8,179	
% Change (Jan.-Sept.)	+13.3	+5.3	+3.3	(+0.7)

Source: Statistics Canada 57-001.

Table 21 - NET ELECTRICITY PROVIDED BY NBEPC FOR CONSUMPTION
(million kilowatt hours)

Month	1976	1977	1978	1979
January	561	695	736	755
February	547	621	644	712
March	570	621	668	670
April	520	564	589	582
May	486	552	556	510
June	458	509	523	464
July	440	438	497	480
August	478	503	522	491
September	504	491	514	486
October	550	575	602	565
November	591	580	641	627
December	681	669	697	
Total	6,350[1]	6,818	7,189	
% Change (Jan.-Nov.)	+11.2	+7.4	+5.4	(-2.3)

[1]Annual total contains revisions not shown in monthly data.
Source: The New Brunswick Electric Power Commission.

Table 22 - LONG DISTANCE CALLS ORIGINATING IN NEW BRUNSWICK
(thousands)

Month	1976	1977	1978	1979
January	2,019	2,150	2,324	2,725
February	1,994	2,027	2,163	2,501
March	2,166	2,310	2,445	2,854
April	2,104	2,178	2,392	2,776
May	2,162	2,384	2,652	3,021
June	2,293	2,478	2,710	2,992
July	2,227	2,370	2,623	3,050
August	2,303	2,563	2,861	3,196
September	2,223	2,417	2,657	2,896
October	2,220	2,369	2,841	3,136
November	2,218	2,361	2,713	2,972
December	2,251	2,346	2,595	
Total	26,180	27,953	30,976	
% Change (Jan.-Nov.)	+6.9	+6.8	+10.8	(+13.2)

Source: The New Brunswick Telephone Company Limited.

Table 23 - TELEPHONES IN SERVICE
(thousands)

Month	1976	1977	1978	1979
January	322	333	344	360
February	322	334	345	362
March	323	335	346	363
April	323	335	347	364
May	324	336	348	365
June	324	337	349	367
July	325	337	351	368
August	326	338	352	369
September	329	340	354	371
October	330	341	356	373
November	331	342	357	375
December	332	343	359	
Average	326	338	351	
% Change (Nov./Nov.)	+4.5	+3.7	+3.8	(+5.0)

Source: The New Brunswick Telephone Company Limited.

(VI) CONSTRUCTION

Table 24 - HOUSING STARTS AND HOUSES UNDER CONSTRUCTION
(all areas)
(number)

Quarter	1976	1977	1978	1979
(A) Starts				
1st Quarter	466	206	567	263
2nd Quarter	3,113	1,540	1,692	2,158
3rd Quarter	2,202	1,743	1,802	1,657
4th Quarter	991	819	1,106	
Total	6,772	4,308	5,167	
% Change (Jan.-Sept.)	-3.0	-36.4	+19.9	(+0.4)
(B) Under Construction				
March 31	3,504	2,440	1,845	1,426
June 30	4,776	2,852	2,642	2,798
September 30	5,368	3,567	2,830	2,802
December 31	3,873	2,709	1,888	
% Change (Sept./Sept.)	(+10.9)	(-33.6)	(-20.7)	(-1.0)

Source: Statistics Canada 64-002.

Table 25 - BUILDING PERMITS ISSUED[1]
(thousand dollars)

Month	1976	1977	1978	1979
January	8,816	4,767	3,270	8,920
February	10,157	7,667	9,692	21,558
March	11,111	5,647	10,545	11,663
April	40,218	14,400	16,958	16,085
May	29,662	25,623	38,822	29,542
June	25,944	22,823	28,409	26,710
July	28,946	13,280	30,486	17,448
August	22,860	23,793	15,386	26,698
September	19,998	14,819	24,066	25,093
October	26,091	11,929	15,555	22,238
November	18,185	21,020	33,668	
December	9,352	12,469	10,190	
Total	251,340	178,237	237,047	
% Change (Jan.-Oct.)	+8.4	-29.1	+33.0	(+6.6)

[1]Does not cover engineering projects (roads, bridges, dams, etc.) nor non-urban construction.
Source: Statistics Canada 64-001.

(VII) TRADE AND FINANCE

Table 26 - VALUE OF RETAIL TRADE
(thousand dollars)

Month	1976	1977	1978	1979
January	95,643	99,441	104,335	120,701
February	96,166	98,947	109,534	123,973
March	110,244	116,859	129,649	155,958
April	128,904	130,566	136,427	158,145
May	128,997	134,339	155,268	176,035
June	135,927	138,014	159,665	181,644
July	133,837	136,892	151,073	165,236
August	122,975	133,258	149,787	173,938
September	123,319	127,230	160,980	163,715
October	131,985	136,460	143,218	171,231
November	129,392	142,365	159,356	
December	157,272	170,176	187,990	
Total	1,494,661	1,564,547	1,747,282	
% Change (Jan.-Oct.)	+11.7	+4.7	+11.7	(+13.6)

Source: Statistics Canada 63-005.

Table 27 - CONSUMER PRICE INDEX (SAINT JOHN)
(1971 = 100)

Month	1976	1977	1978	1979
January	147.1	155.0	168.5	183.0
February	147.6	156.9	169.7	184.3
March	148.4	158.9	171.2	186.8
April	149.1	160.2	172.3	188.2
May	150.2	161.1	173.2	190.5
June	150.8	162.0	174.5	191.5
July	151.4	163.0	177.1	193.0
August	152.0	164.2	177.7	193.9
September	152.8	165.5	178.1	195.5
October	153.0	166.1	179.9	196.9
November	153.9	167.3	181.2	198.1
December	154.9	168.3	181.7	199.2
Average Index	150.9	162.4	175.4	191.7
% Change	+7.0	+7.6	+8.0	+9.3

Source: Statistics Canada 62-001.

Table 28 - VALUE OF NEW MOTOR VEHICLE SALES
(thousand dollars)

Month	1976	1977	1978	1979
January	10,261	12,357	13,787	18,142
February	13,756	14,259	16,235	19,438
March	19,186	20,686	21,453	30,994
April	22,355	21,423	27,563	30,186
May	21,205	24,516	30,044	34,422
June	22,121	23,746	27,488	31,233
July	17,758	16,642	22,473	27,337
August	14,855	16,407	20,908	23,347
September	12,183	13,713	21,607	20,441
October	22,381	20,011	18,638	26,914
November	14,982	18,414	18,472	
December	12,180	11,440	12,976	
Total	203,223	213,614	251,644	
% Change (Jan.-Oct.)	+9.8	+5.1	+17.8	(+19.2)

Source: Statistics Canada 63-007.

Table 29 - NUMBER OF NEW MOTOR VEHICLE SALES

Month	1976	1977	1978	1979
All Vehicles				
January	1,721	2,058	2,135	2,422
February	2,369	2,382	2,526	2,533
March	3,435	3,408	3,305	4,052
April	3,963	3,664	4,237	4,020
May	3,727	4,123	4,622	4,375
June	3,807	3,915	4,130	4,065
July	3,066	2,910	3,409	3,360
August	2,596	2,668	3,089	3,015
September	2,085	2,195	3,120	2,596
October	3,753	3,242	2,563	3,310
November	2,471	2,797	2,490	
December	2,012	1,833	1,724	
Total	35,005	35,195	37,350	
% Change (Jan.-Oct.)	0.0	+0.5	+6.1	(+1.8)

- CONTINUED -

Table 29 - CONTINUED

Month	1976	1977	1978	1979
Passenger Vehicles				
January	1,188	1,429	1,414	1,605
February	1,758	1,736	1,835	1,802
March	2,592	2,442	2,419	2,888
April	2,967	2,786	3,035	2,966
May	2,841	3,067	3,324	3,041
June	2,749	2,901	2,921	2,926
July	2,234	2,123	2,485	2,396
August	1,890	1,856	2,166	2,114
September	1,550	1,546	2,136	1,769
October	2,624	2,207	1,697	2,164
November	1,716	1,973	1,642	
December	1,426	1,242	1,142	
Total	25,535	25,308	26,216	
% Change (Jan.-Oct.)	-0.8	-0.9	+3.6	(+1.0)
Commercial Vehicles				
January	533	629	721	817
February	611	646	691	731
March	843	966	886	1,164
April	996	878	1,202	1,054
May	886	1,056	1,298	1,334
June	1,058	1,014	1,209	1,139
July	832	787	924	964
August	706	812	923	901
September	535	649	984	827
October	1,129	1,035	866	1,146
November	755	824	848	
December	586	591	582	
Total	9,470	9,887	11,134	
% Change (Jan.-Oct.)	+2.1	+4.4	+12.6	(+3.8)

Source: Statistics Canada 63-007.

Table 30 - LIFE INSURANCE SALES
(million dollars)

Month	1976	1977	1978	1979
January	31.2	27.2	34.8	41.7
February	37.0	40.1	41.0	47.7
March	40.4	45.7	52.7	52.1
April	33.8	31.7	46.7	51.7
May	37.7	39.8	46.5	55.8
June	38.6	42.0	55.5	58.0
July	31.0	37.0	41.5	53.8
August	36.0	34.8	44.1	55.0
September	34.2	43.9	41.4	55.6
October	36.7	47.5	46.6	69.2
November	43.6	51.3	63.8	
December	45.5	48.1	56.0	
Total	444.9[1]	489.1	570.6	
% Change (Jan.-Oct.)	+12.7	+9.9	+16.7	(+19.9)

[1]Annual total contains revisions not shown in monthly data.
Source: Statistics Canada 11-003.

Table 31 - CHEQUES CASHED IN CLEARING HOUSES
(million dollars)

Month	1976	1977	1978	1979
January	1,508.0	1,216.4	1,396.7	1,810.5
February	1,487.2	1,170.6	1,210.7	1,670.7
March	1,616.0	1,367.0	1,476.9	1,758.1
April	1,569.0	1,361.6	1,449.8	1,906.5
May	1,682.1	1,420.3	1,458.7	1,851.4
June	1,638.9	1,452.1	1,577.9	1,732.7
July	1,318.6	1,548.3	1,761.3	1,868.3
August	1,318.7	1,565.1	1,441.5	2,022.6
September	1,342.5	1,345.5	1,467.1	1,897.3
October	1,358.2	1,489.1	1,616.9	2,044.3
November	1,360.6	1,528.0	1,952.9	
December	1,397.6	1,590.4	2,261.1	
Total	17,597.4	17,054.5	19,071.4	
% Change (Jan.-Oct.)	+5.3	-3.0	+11.8	(+24.9)

Source: Statistics Canada 61-001.

Table 32 - TOTAL PORT TRAFFIC - SAINT JOHN HARBOUR
(thousand metric tonnes)

Month	1976	1977	1978	1979
January	497.2	594.6	738.4	1 428.9
February	408.3	436.5	755.0	1 110.9
March	460.6	763.9	1 058.4	1 479.5
April	523.6	706.6	824.7	1 242.0
May	396.5	576.3	920.9	1 180.9
June	409.1	514.8	1 271.7	1 315.8
July	422.4	501.3	1 355.6	1 127.5
August	420.1	709.9[1]	722.4	1 375.5
September	530.8	681.3	1 225.5	1 211.2
October	404.9	983.3	1 076.7	1 110.5
November	538.5	760.2	1 469.1	1 156.6
December	494.0	1 067.2	1 122.3	
Total	5 506.0	8 295.9	12 540.7	
% Change (Jan.-Nov.)	+12.5	+50.7	+51.2	(+20.3)

[1]Includes "Canaport" tonnage effective Aug. 10/77 coincidental with expansion of Harbour limits.
Source: National Harbours Board, Port of Saint John.

Table 33 - PORT TRAFFIC - SAINT JOHN HARBOUR
(thousand metric tonnes)

Month	Incoming Traffic			Outgoing Traffic		
	1978	1979	% Change	1978	1979	% Change
January	414.3	852.9	+105.9	324.1	576.0	+77.7
February	420.0	620.1	+ 47.6	335.0	490.8	+46.5
March	612.8	895.1	+ 46.1	445.6	584.4	+31.1
April	370.4	642.8	+ 73.5	454.3	599.2	+31.9
May	399.2	639.0	+ 60.1	521.6	542.0	+ 3.9
June	904.6	860.9	- 4.8	367.1	454.9	+23.9
July	868.5	658.6	- 24.2	487.1	468.8	- 3.8
August	280.4	876.3	+212.5	442.0	499.2	+12.9
September	720.0	819.0	+ 13.8	505.4	392.2	-22.4
October	713.1	605.1	- 15.2	363.6	505.4	+39.0
November	898.3	630.4	- 29.8	570.8	526.1	- 7.8
December	602.4			519.9		
Total	7 204.1			5 336.5		
% Change (Jan.-Nov.)	+110.3	(+22.7)		+9.6	(+17.1)	

Source: National Harbours Board, Port of Saint John.

(IX) SEASONALLY ADJUSTED ECONOMIC INDICATORS

Table 34 - EMPLOYMENT INDEX
(1961 = 100)

Month	1976	1977	1978	1979
January	135.7	131.3	131.8	136.6
February	136.0	131.5	133.7	136.7
March	136.6	130.6	133.4	135.0
April	136.6	131.0	133.3	134.6
May	136.3	130.4	136.2	136.8
June	134.9	131.9	135.5	133.6
July	133.9	131.5	134.9	133.8
August	135.2	130.1	133.0	134.5
September	135.3	130.7	136.3	135.5
October	133.9	131.4	138.1	136.8
November	132.8	130.8	136.5	
December	133.3	131.5	136.3	

Source: Statistics Canada 72-002.

Table 35 - TOTAL WAGES AND SALARIES
(million dollars)

Month	1976	1977	1978	1979
January	165.1	181.5	193.0	215.2
February	168.3	182.9	196.8	219.0
March	172.5	188.5	196.2	218.3
April	173.2	184.7	198.4	217.0
May	173.2	184.4	202.7	223.1
June	173.6	186.2	205.2	222.3
July	175.5	188.3	204.8	225.1
August	174.0	188.2	202.1	225.9
September	179.2	189.0	204.9	226.9
October	176.2	191.5	215.6	233.3
November	180.1	192.0	215.2	
December	187.4	197.2	218.7	

Source: Statistics Canada 72-005.

Table 36 - VALUE OF RETAIL TRADE
(million dollars)

Month	1976	1977	1978	1979
January	118.5	128.7	136.5	153.8
February	122.4	125.9	139.0	157.2
March	119.2	127.0	138.8	166.1
April	126.7	128.2	139.9	163.6
May	121.2	127.7	143.8	163.1
June	125.2	127.2	144.9	163.7
July	123.7	130.0	145.8	161.0
August	123.3	130.8	147.3	167.9
September	127.0	129.1	162.3	172.4
October	127.0	133.3	141.3	164.4
November	124.4	136.4	152.2	
December	128.1	135.9	153.8	

Sources: Statistics Canada 11-003 & 63-005.

Table 37 - LABOUR FORCE
(thousands)

Month	1976	1977	1978	1979
January	256	257	269	277
February	254	256	270	276
March	252	258	271	281
April	254	256	271	282
May	252	258	272	282
June	253	259	271	278
July	252	264	275	277
August	253	263	271	280
September	255	263	275	281
October	254	264	276	282
November	255	265	278	284
December	255	266	276	283

Source: Statistics Canada 71-001.

Table 38 - LABOUR FORCE EMPLOYED
(thousands)

Month	1976	1977	1978	1979
January	228	223	235	245
February	227	223	234	244
March	225	222	236	247
April	226	223	234	248
May	224	225	237	251
June	225	225	239	248
July	225	230	240	246
August	225	228	236	248
September	227	228	240	251
October	225	228	242	252
November	227	228	246	254
December	226	229	244	254

Sources: Statistics Canada 71-001 & 71-201.

Table 39 - LABOUR FORCE UNEMPLOYED
(thousands)

Month	1976	1977	1978	1979
January	28	34	34	32
February	27	33	36	32
March	27	36	35	34
April	28	33	37	34
May	28	33	35	31
June	28	34	32	30
July	27	34	35	31
August	28	35	35	32
September	28	35	35	30
October	29	36	34	30
November	28	37	32	30
December	29	37	32	29

Sources: Statistics Canada 71-001 & 71-201.

Table 40 - LABOUR FORCE UNEMPLOYMENT RATE
(per cent)

Month	1976	1977	1978	1979
January	10.9	13.2	12.6	11.6
February	10.6	12.9	13.3	11.6
March	10.7	14.0	12.9	12.1
April	11.0	12.9	13.7	12.1
May	11.1	12.8	12.9	11.0
June	11.1	13.1	11.8	10.8
July	10.7	12.9	12.7	11.2
August	11.1	13.3	12.9	11.4
September	11.0	13.3	12.7	10.7
October	11.4	13.6	12.3	10.6
November	11.0	14.0	11.5	10.6
December	11.4	13.9	11.6	10.2

Sources: Statistics Canada 71-001 & 71-201.

Table 41 - LABOUR FORCE PARTICIPATION RATE
(per cent)

Month	1976	1977	1978	1979
January	54.7	53.5	54.7	55.3
February	54.2	53.2	54.9	55.0
March	53.6	53.5	55.0	55.9
April	53.9	53.1	54.9	56.0
May	53.5	53.4	54.9	56.0
June	53.5	53.5	54.6	55.0
July	53.2	54.4	55.4	54.7
August	53.3	54.0	54.5	55.2
September	53.6	53.9	55.2	55.3
October	53.2	54.0	55.3	55.4
November	53.3	54.1	55.6	55.7
December	53.2	54.2	55.2	55.4

Sources: Statistics Canada 71-001 & 71-201.